

THRILLING SCIENCE-FICTION TALES!

AMAZING

ANC

ADVENTURES



NO. 1 **10c**



ASTEROID WITCH

Trespasser In Time

THE STONE MEN!

**WINGED DEATH
ON VENUS**



WEB COMIC
UNIVERSE.COM

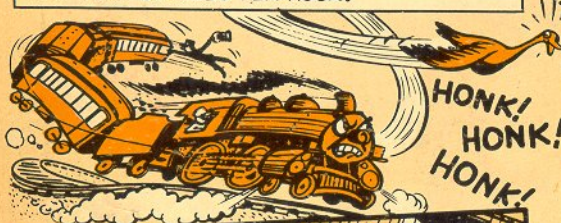
AMAZING FACTS from NATURE

MANKIND PRIDES ITSELF ON DEVELOPING GREAT RUNNERS, JUMPERS, FLYERS, SWIMMERS. BUT HOW DO THEY STACK UP AGAINST NATURE'S LOWLY CREATURES?

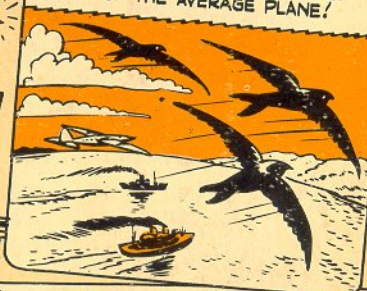
SPEED? THE DEERFLY HAS BEEN CLOCKED AT A SPEED OF 800 MILES PER HOUR! THAT MAKES 1100 FEET A SECOND AND BEYOND THE SPEED OF SOUND! A SUPERSONIC PLANE JUST GOES A MERE 650 MILES PER HOUR!



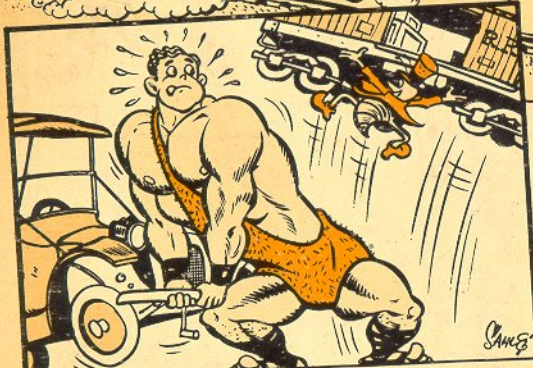
A FLOCK OF WILD GEESSE RACED THE 20TH CENTURY LIMITED AND...WON! THE CHOO-CHOO CRAWLED AT A MERE 85 MILES PER HOUR!



A SMALL BIRD--THE EUROPEAN SWIFT--MIGRATES A DISTANCE OF 1500 MILES TO AFRICA--IN SEVEN HOURS! THAT'S MORE THAN 200 MILES PER HOUR-- EQUAL TO THE SPEED OF THE AVERAGE PLANE!



SWIMMING? SALMON CAN SWIM AGAINST THE CURRENT AT THIRTY MILES AN HOUR, AND LEAP FIFTEEN FEET INTO THE AIR IN HURDLING A WATERFALL. MAN'S BEST SWIMMING EFFORT IS ABOUT FOUR MILES AN HOUR.



WEIGHT-LIFTING? AN ORDINARY FLEA CAN LIFT 150 TIMES ITS OWN WEIGHT AND PULL 300 TIMES ITS OWN WEIGHT! ALL SANDOW, THE STRONG MAN, COULD DO WAS LIFT A CAR OUT OF A DITCH!



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The ASTEROID WITCH



THERE WAS NOT THE SLIGHTEST TRACE OF PITY... OR REMORSE... IN VINCE'S HANDSOME, HARD FEATURES AS, SHORTLY AFTER, HE FORCED HIS WAY INTO A CROWDED BAR JAMMED WITH SPACE-FARING MEN.



MAKE MINE A ROCKETINI!

"SOMEWHERE IN THIS UNIVERSE THERE MUST BE A WOMAN OF UNENDURABLE ALLURE WHO IS TRULY UNCONQUERABLE!"



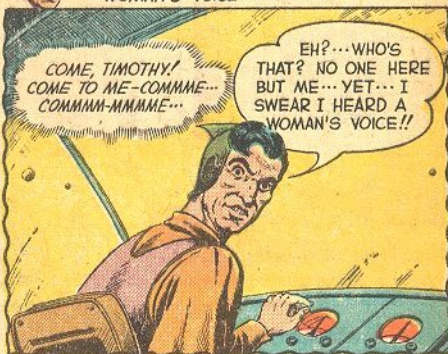
...THE ASTEROID WITCH...

ARE YOU TRYIN' TO TELL ME THAT ALL SPACE SHIPS ARE ROUTED AROUND AREA P-811x921,0 SIMPLY BECAUSE OF A MYTH?

BUT THE ASTEROID WITCH IS NO LEGEND! SHE'S A FIEND OUT OF HELL. SHE EXISTS ONLY TO ATTRACT AND DESTROY MEN! SHE ALMOST DESTROYED ME!



"I WAS PILOTIN' MY SHIP, STAR-BRITE, TOWARD MARS, WHEN SUDDENLY, AS SURE AS I'M STANDIN' HERE, I HEARD A WOMAN'S VOICE..."



COME, TIMOTHY! COME TO ME--COMMME-- COMMME--MMME--

EH?...WHO'S THAT? NO ONE HERE BUT ME...YET... I SWEAR I HEARD A WOMAN'S VOICE!!

"THE VOICE PERSISTED. I TRIED TO BLOT IT OUT OF MY MIND. YET IT REPEATED, OVER AND OVER..."

COMMME-- COMMME-- CLOSER TO ME, TIMOTHY ...COMMME--

THAT VOICE! I CAN'T BLOT IT OUT! AM I GOING MAD??



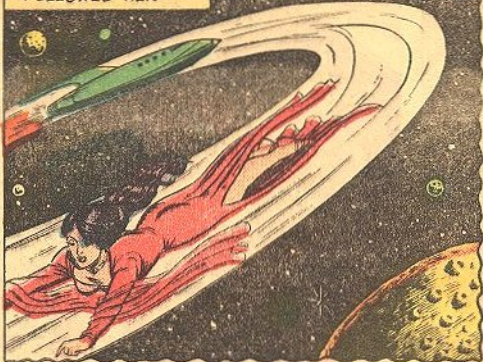
"NEVER HAD I HEARD A VOICE SO SOFT, SO SILKEN, SO ALLURING. MY HEART BEAT FEVERISHLY, AND THEN--OUT IN THE BLACKNESS OF SPACE-- LOOMED A FACE ...A BEAUTIFUL FACE... THE LOVELIEST WOMAN'S FACE I HAD EVER SEEN!!!"



YEE-EEEEK!

I TELL YOU, YOU CAN SEARCH EVERY SOLAR SYSTEM IN THE UNIVERSE, AND YOU'LL NEVER SEE SO HAUNTING A FACE! IT WAS LOVELY—YET HARD. A FACE EVERY MAN SINCE THE BEGINNING OF TIME COULD NOT HELP BUT DESIRE... YET A FACE NO MAN COULD LONG POSSESS! I ACHED FOR HER WITH EVERY ATOM OF MY THROBBING HEART!!!"

"I LOST MY HEAD. I PURSUED THAT... **WITCH**... THROUGH SPACE. SHE HURTTLED DOWN TOWARD AN ASTEROID IN AREA P-811-921, O. BUT AS I FOLLOWED HER..."



"...SUDDENLY A METEOR HOVE INTO VIEW. INSTINCTIVELY, I YANKED AT THE CONTROLS! I BANGED MY HEAD."



WHEN I REVIVED, LATER, THE **ASTEROID WITCH** WAS GONE! THE UNEXPECTED APPEARANCE OF THE METEOR SAVED ME FROM A FATE AT WHICH I CAN ONLY GUESS. I CONTINUED MY FLIGHT TO MARS. SHORTLY AFTER THAT, SEVERAL SPACE SHIPS VANISHED IN THAT AREA. INTERPLANETARY POLICE RULED IT OFF-LIMITS. YOU CAN GUESS WHY...



LATER, AT THE NEARBY SPACE-PORT, VINCE FORCES HIS WAY INTO HIS VESSEL, BEFORE TAKE-OFF TIME!



SAY! YOU CAN'T GO IN THERE!

THINK AGAIN!!

VINCE DARROW HAS NOT MISSED A SINGLE WORD. HIS IMAGINATION FLAMES WHETTED BY THE POWERFUL **ROCKETINI**.

"**ASTEROID WITCH!** SHE SOUNDS... SUPERB! I MUST MEET HER... AT ANY COST!"



WARN THE INTERPLANETARY PATROL! HE'S STOLEN THE SPACE-LINER!



NO ONE CAN KEEP ME FROM HER!

BUT AS THE SPACE-LINER NEARS THE FORBIDDEN AREA...



POLICE VESSEL X-32 CALLING RUNAWAY SPACE-LINER! THAT SHOT OVER YOUR BOW WAS MERELY A WARNING! TURN BACK!

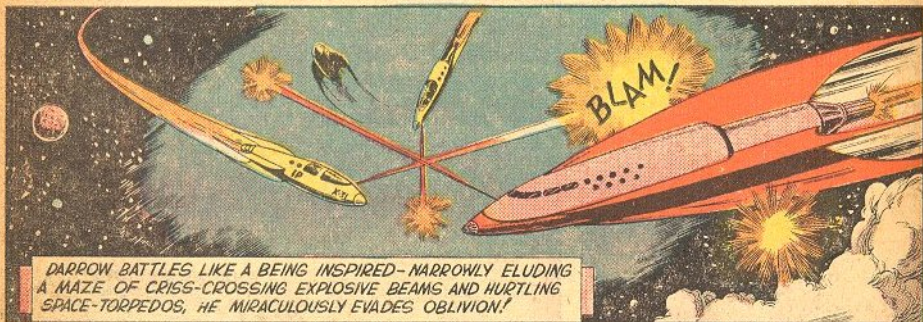
SIGHT OF THE POLICE VESSEL'S WARNING BLAST CLEARS VINCE'S DRINK-BEFOZZLED BRAIN.



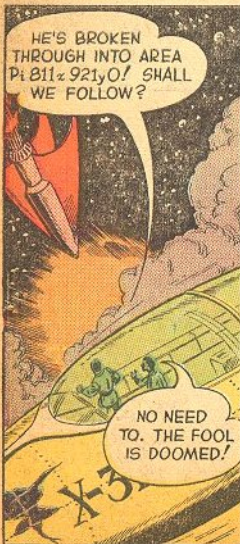
NO...
BELOVED!
DO NOT
SURRENDER!



IT-IT'S HER...
THE ASTEROID WITCH...
AND SHE'S EVEN MORE
WONDERFUL THAN I HAD
DREAMED! I'VE GOT
TO GO TO HER... NOTHING
WILL STOP ME!



DARROW BATTLES LIKE A BEING INSPIRED—NARROWLY ELUDING A MAZE OF CRISS-CROSSING EXPLOSIVE BEAMS AND HURTLING SPACE-TORPEDOS, HE MIRACULOUSLY EVADES OBLIVION!



HE'S BROKEN
THROUGH INTO AREA
Pi 811-921yO! SHALL
WE FOLLOW?

NO NEED
TO. THE FOOL
IS DOOMED!



JOYOUSLY
VINCE PURSUES THE
UNEARTHLY BEING
THROUGH THE VOID!

TOO LATE,
VINCE DISCOVERS
THAT HIS SPACE-
LINER HAS BEEN
DAMAGED IN
BATTLE. HE
GRAPPLES WITH
THE CONTROLS...
AND CRASHES!





GOT TO...
FIND HER

REVIVING, DARROW PAIN-
FULLY DRAGS HIMSELF
OUT OF THE FLAMING
VESSEL.



I'VE... FOUND...
YOU!!!

COMM-MMMME
TO ME, VINCENT DARROW! I
HAVE PLANNED AND WAITED
FOR THIS MOMENT...
TOO LONG...



YOU-YOU'RE LIKE NO
OTHER WOMAN! YOU'RE COLD...
HARD YET **SUPERB!**

**KISS
ME!**



OR ARE YOU **AFRAID**... AFRAID
THAT YOU MIGHT **LOSE YOUR SOUL!**

I'VE GOT
TO KISS YOU!



LISTEN TO ME, VINCENT
DARROW! YOU'RE GOING TO
KISS ME... AND WHEN YOU
DO... YOUR SOUL WILL BE
LOST... FOR ALL ETERNITY!

"HER LIPS...
COMING CLOSER!
I CAN'T RESIST
THEM!"



LET HIM GO,
YOU... **CREATURE!**

?!!



KIT-E...
VINCE'S SIMPLE
LITTLE MARTIAN
SWEETHEART!

NOT AS SIMPLE AS
YOU THINK, **WITCH!!** I
SENSED VINCE WAS NOT
HIS NORMAL, LOVING, GENTLE
SELF! I KNEW THAT SOME-
THING VICIOUS HAD OVER-
COME HIM... CHANGING
HIM INTO A RUTHLESS
BLACKGUARD!



AND SO I **PRETENDED** TO DESTROY
MYSELF! IT'S EASY TO FAKE A SUICIDE-
PLUNGE... WITH THE HELP OF A HIDDEN
ANTI-GRAVITY BELT!... I PRETENDED TO
DIE... SO THAT I COULD TRAIL VINCE
AND FIND OUT WHAT HAD CAUSED THE
UNBELIEVABLE CHANGE IN HIM!

YOU
LITTLE **SNIP!**
I'LL--

STAND WHERE YOU ARE! I'VE
GOT MY ATOM-BLAST PISTOL
TRAINED ON YOU! YOUR HYPNOTIC
APPEAL WON'T AFFECT **ME**... I'M
NOT A SUSCEPTIBLE MALE!

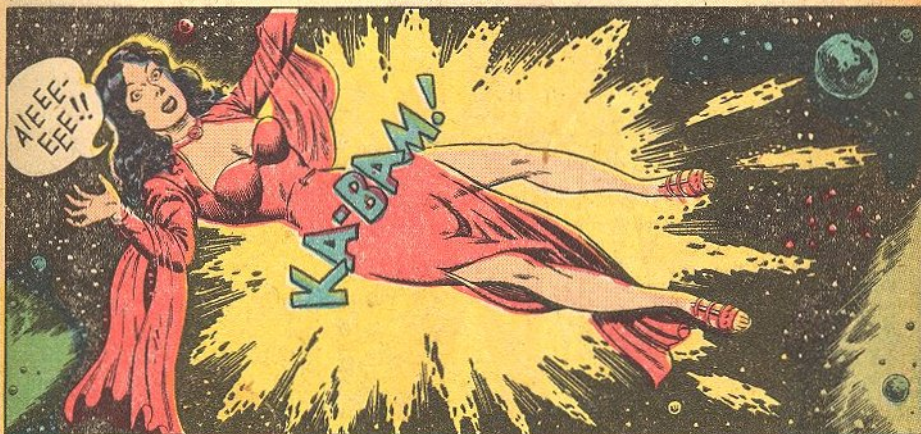
WH-WHAT ARE
YOU GOING TO
D-DO???



I'M GOING TO GIVE YOU
ONE INFINITESIMAL FRACTION
OF A SECOND TO **CLEAR**
OUT OF THIS UNIVERSE!
NOW... **GIT!!!!**



I KNOW WHEN I'M
BEATEN! GOODBYE! YOU CAN
HAVE YOUR PRECIOUS VINCE
DARROW! THERE ARE OTHER
FISH TO BE SNARED, IN
OTHER UNIVERSES!



WHILE THE ENTIRE WORLD SPED TOWARD THE ATOMIC WAR THAT WOULD END CIVILIZATION, A MAN AND WOMAN MADE ONE FINAL, DESPERATE ATTEMPT TO AVERT...

A-DAY

YOU SEE?
THAT IS WHAT WILL
HAPPEN TO YOUR
WORLD IF YOU
FAIL!



Golden Age

THE WATCH CAME FIRST. BOB JOHNSON FOUND IT ONE NIGHT AS HE RETURNED FROM A LATE U.N. COMMITTEE MEETING...

HUH? WHA- WHAT'S
THAT? A WATCH? BUT-
BUT HOW'D IT **GET**
HERE?



AND IT'S THE FUNNIEST KIND OF WATCH-IF
IT **IS** A WATCH-I EVER SAW! NO HANDS!
NO DIALS! SAY...LIZBETH IS AN ARCHAEO-
LOGIST. MAYBE THIS IS UP HER ALLEY.
I'LL DROP OVER AND SEE HER!



LESS THAN AN HOUR LATER, IN A LITTLE APARTMENT SOMEWHERE IN THE SIXTIES...

I KNOW IT'S A HORRIBLE HOUR, DARLING—BUT I FOUND THIS IN MY ROOM JUST NOW. I WONDERED IF YOU MIGHT KNOW WHAT IT IS?

IT LOOKS LIKE A WATCH. MAYBE SOMEONE IS PLAYING A TRICK ON YOU! HAVE A DRINK... AND WE'LL TALK THIS OVER!



AS BOB AND LIZBETH TURN AWAY, THE WATCH SHIMMERS... FADES AWAY... AND RISING IN THE SMOKE... IS A TINY MAN!

MAYBE I DON'T NEED THIS DRINK, DARLING. I'M BEGINNING TO SEE THINGS ALREADY! LOOK IN THAT MIRROR!

YOU ARE IN A BAD WAY!



Y!!!

THEN--THEN YOU SEE HIM, TOO! AND THE WATCH--IS GONE!



DO NOT BE AFRAID! I HAVE COME A LONG WAY TO FIND YOU, ROBERT JOHNSON. IN YOUR POST AS ATTACHE TO THE AMERICAN STAFF OF THE UNITED NATIONS, YOU CAN DO WHAT I CANNOT--BRING PEACE TO THE WORLD!

ME? OH... I'M DREAMING ALL THIS!



THIS IS NO DREAM! I AM KAN DAL, A MEMBER OF A RACE THAT ONCE LIVED ON THE SUNKEN CONTINENT OF ATLANTIS. WE WERE DESTROYED BY THE VERY THING THAT THREATENS YOUR OWN CIVILIZATION! NOW--WILL YOU COME WITH ME?



EVEN NOW YOUR OWN AND OTHER NATIONS ARE ARMING WITH THE ATOMIC BOMB! THOSE BOMBS WILL SMASH MANKIND! BELIEVE ME...AND COME WITH ME!

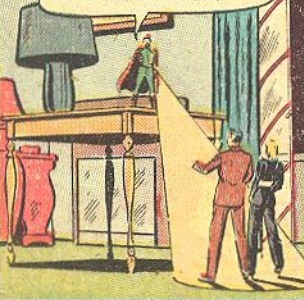
THAT'S JUST THE WAY I FEEL...BUT IF THERE IS A CHANCE, HOWEVER SLIGHT, FOR PEACE--I'LL TAKE IT!

I-I THINK I'M GOING CRAZY...BUT I'M...WILLING TO GO ALONG!



AS BOB AND LIZBETH WATCH WITH WIDE EYES, KAN DAL LIFTS A TINY PENCIL-LIKE OBJECT FROM HIS BELT. A BEAM OF LIGHT PLAYS OVER BOB AND LIZBETH... SLOWLY, THEY SHRINK... FOOT BY FOOT, INCH BY INCH...

THE WATCH WAS A TELEPORTATIONAL TERMINAL. TELEPORTATION IS A METHOD OF TRANSPORTATION INVOLVING INSTANTANEOUS SHIFTING OF MATTER FROM POINT A TO POINT B! THE WATCH IS A TERMINAL POINT--A RECEIVER FOR MY BODY MATTER!



THERE IS AN INSTANT OF COLD AND FLASHING LIGHT AS THE TELEPORT STATION HUMS AND GLOWS! BEHIND THEM THE WATCH REFORMS... GLOWS AND GLIMMERS... THEN SLOWLY FADES OUT... AS KAN DAL AND HIS CHARGES ARE LIFTED AND SWEEPED THROUGH THE DARK AND EMPTY REACHES OF NOTHINGNESS...



--AND THEN, WITHOUT ANY PASSING OF TIME, THEY STAND ON A FLAT, SMOOTH SURFACE, HIGH ABOVE A LARGE LABORATORY!

I--WHY--WE AREN'T IN MY APARTMENT, BUT WE CAN'T BE ANYWHERE ELSE! THERE WAS NO TIME...

TELEPORTATION OCCURS INSTANTLY, BUT STEP DOWN, WE ARE MILES UNDER THE ATLANTIC OCEAN, IN A GLASSITE-ENCLOSED BUBBLE MILES WIDE!

UNDER--UNDER THE ATLANTIC OCEAN!



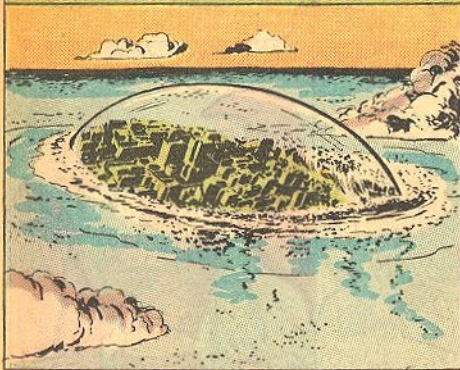
LOOK UP THERE, AT OUR VISISCREEN! ON IT YOU SEE ATLANTIS AS IT WAS FIFTY THOUSAND YEARS AGO--EVEN FURTHER ADVANCED THAN YOUR OWN CIVILIZATION! OUR GREAT ENEMY WAS MU--A RIVAL EMPIRE IN THE PACIFIC!



"WE HAD THE ATOM BOMB, TOO! WE INTENDED TO BLAST MU... AND MU INTENDED TO SMASH US! THEN ONE NIGHT, A HORDE OF ENEMY FLIERS CAME OVERHEAD. THEY DROPPED ATOM BOMBS! ATLANTIS WAS BLOWN OFF THE FACE OF THE EARTH IN ONE DAY AND ONE NIGHT!"



"THERE WERE ONLY A FEW ATLANTEANS LEFT. THEY HAD ATOMIC POWER. THEY USED THAT POWER TO BUILD A GIGANTIC FLOATING CITY—AND SANK IT BENEATH THE WAVES TO ESCAPE THE DEADLY RADIATIONS!"



"OUR OWN BOMBERS DESTROYED MU! THAT TOO, SANK UNDER THE PACIFIC. WE LIVED FOR CENTURIES UNDER THE OCEAN, GRADUALLY DEVELOPING OUR SCIENCE AND EXTENDING OUR UNDERWATER CITIES. WE THOUGHT ALL LIFE HAD BEEN OBLITERATED ON EARTH..."



"AND THEN OUR TELEMETERS AND GEIGER COUNTERS PICKED UP—ATOMIC RADIATION—FROM THE SURFACE! OUR SCIENTISTS WERE GREATLY EXCITED!"

"THERE MUST BE LIVING THINGS POSSESSING INTELLIGENCE ON THE SURFACE!"

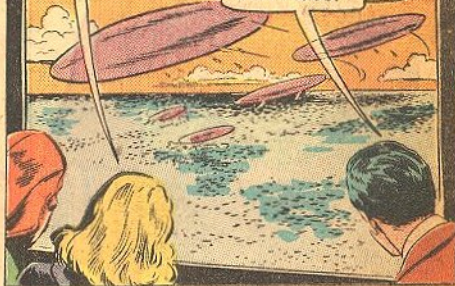
"WE MUST INVESTIGATE! AT ONCE! PERHAPS THEY TOO HAVE THE SECRET OF ATOMIC POWER!"



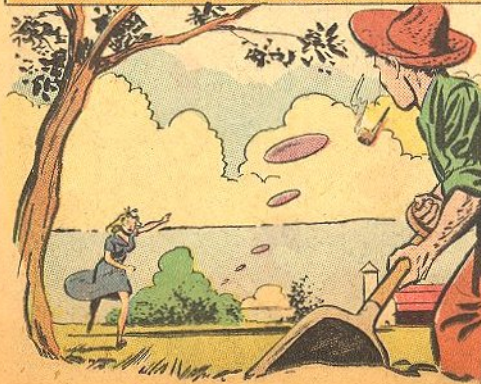
"IT TOOK US SOME TIME SINCE THE FIRST ATOM BOMB DROPPED ON HIROSHIMA, UNTIL WE MANUFACTURED VESSELS THAT COULD FLY IN AIR AND MOVE THROUGH WATER..."

"WHY—THEY LOOK LIKE—"

"FLYING SAUCERS! OF COURSE! SO YOU PEOPLE WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR THOSE!"



"WE SWEEPED BACK AND FORTH OVER THE UNITED STATES—AT THAT TIME, YOU WERE THE ONLY NATION TO HAVE DEVELOPED THE ATOM BOMB!"



"WE SOON LEARNED THAT ATOMIC WAR THREATENED THE PEOPLES OF THE EARTH! IN COMMON COUNCIL, WE AGREED TO BREAK OUR SILENCE OF CENTURIES...TO APPEAR AND OFFER YOU THE ONE **SOLUTION** TO WAR!"

"I DIDN'T KNOW THERE WAS A SOLUTION! **WHAT IS IT?**"

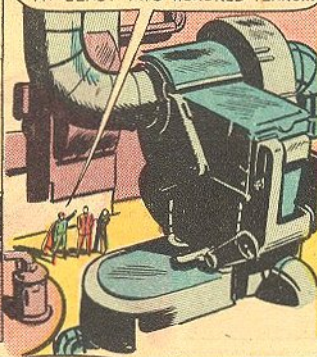


TO ANSWER THAT, LET ME SHOW YOU OUR WORLD! HERE IS AN UNDERWATER GARDEN THAT RAISES MORE AND BETTER FRUITS AND VEGETABLES THAN YOUR OWN SURFACE CIVILIZATIONS.

OUT OF SLIME AND MUD? BUT—HOW?



THESE VAST ENGINES FILL OUR CITIES WITH GERM-FREE AIR, COOL AND FRESH! THERE IS NO DISEASE, NO SICKNESS! UNDER THESE PERFECT CONDITIONS, WE LIVE FOR AT LEAST TWO HUNDRED YEARS...



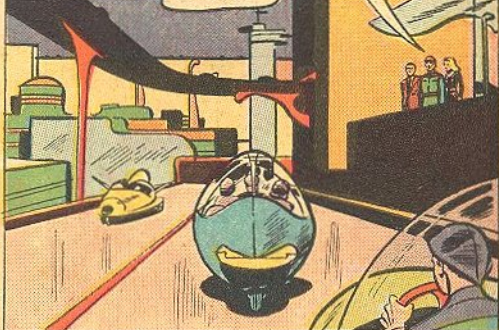
WE DO ALL THIS WITH ATOMIC POWER! IT MAKES OUR FOOD AND CLOTHES, WARMS OUR SHELTERS, USES IT POWERS OUR SEA AND AIR VESSELS! IT IS THIS ATOMIC POWER THAT CAN END ALL WAR!



HERE ARE THE BLUEPRINTS OF THE CYCLOGINES THAT RELEASE ATOMIC POWER IN THE AMOUNTS NEEDED. WE OFFER THEM TO YOU FREELY, GLADLY. SINCE ALL WAR IS ECONOMIC IN NATURE—BY GIVING YOU ATOMIC POWER, WE WILL ELIMINATE THE **NEED** FOR WAR!



NO MAN HAS TO WORK HERE MORE THAN FIVE HOURS A WEEK! YET HE OWNS EVERYTHING HE WANTS! WITH CHEAP ATOMIC POWER, NOTHING IS EXPENSIVE! AND SO IF EVERY NATION CAN HAVE EVERYTHING IT WANTS, THERE WILL BE NO POVERTY—AND NO WAR!

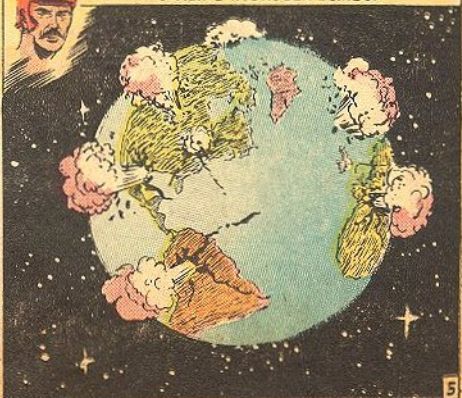


KAN DAL—BAD NEWS! DICTATOR BOMBERS HAVE JUST BEEN DETECTED ON THE U.S. RADAR SCREEN! UNLESS THEY TURN BACK IN 20 MINUTES, THE U.S. WILL HAVE TO RETALIATE AT ONCE!

THIS IS DREADFUL, BUT THE FREE PEOPLES WILL NOT ALLOW THEMSELVES TO BE ENSLAVED WITHOUT A FIGHT!



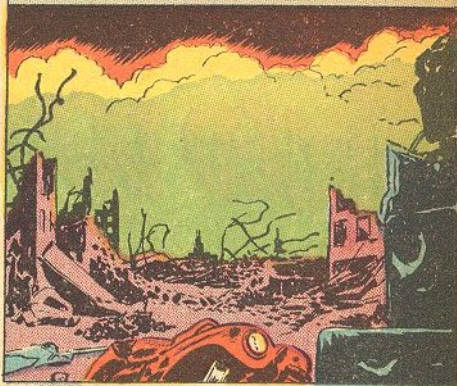
"ALL THE WORLD WILL BECOME A FURNACE OF BLAZING HYDROGEN BOMBS."



"...INCLUDING ATLANTIS, WITH ITS AGE-OLD WISDOM...ITS GREAT YEARNING FOR PEACE..."



"DEATH WILL INHABIT MOST OF THE EARTH / WHOLE CONTINENTS WILL BE WIPED OUT AND BE LOST TO CIVILIZATION FOREVER!"



IT CAN'T HAPPEN! WE WON'T LET IT HAPPEN!
THERE MUST BE *SOMETHING* WE CAN DO
TO STOP THIS MADNESS!

IS THERE?



WAIT, THERE IS *ONE CHANCE*! OUR VIDEOPHONE!
WITH IT YOU CAN BROADCAST ONE LAST APPEAL TO THE
DESPERATE MEN IN MOSCOW WHO ARE RUSHING ON
TO SELF-DESTRUCTION! THEY MUST BE MADE TO
REALIZE THAT THEIR AGGRESSION WILL FAIL!



THEY WILL HAVE A
CHOICE BETWEEN
PEACE AND PLENTY...
OR ANNIHILATION!

BOB JOHNSON CALLING THE
KREMLIN! BOB JOHNSON
CALLING **STALIN!** DO YOU
HEAR ME? CALL BACK YOUR
BOMBERS BEFORE YOU AND
ALL YOUR PEOPLE ARE DE-
STROYED. ANSWER! FOR GOD'S
SAKE, ANSWER! ANSWER...

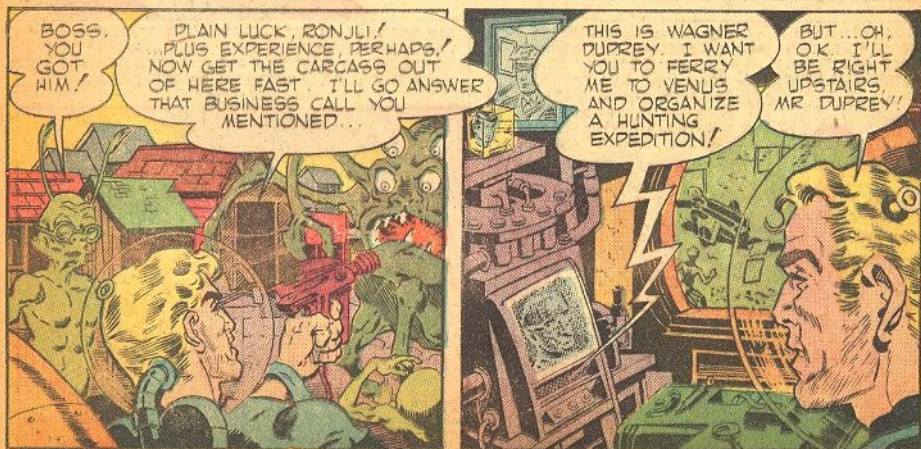


CAN BOB CONTACT THE KREMLIN'S DESPERATE MEN IN
TIME TO TURN BACK THEIR BARBAROUS ASSAULT? OR WILL
HE FAIL ON THIS MOST TERRIBLE DAY IN HISTORY...THE DAY
WHICH MAY USHER IN UNIVERSAL DESTRUCTION... A-DAY...
ATOM-DAY!



CHET FIELDS THOUGHT BEACHCOMBING ON THE **CLOUDY PLANET** WOULD BE A SOFT, EASY LIFE! OWNER OF A SMALL ROCKET SHIP, FERRYING SUPPLIES AND PASSENGERS TO AND FROM THE OCCASIONAL SPACE YACHTS "ANCHORING" IN THE UPPER ATMOSPHERE ... CHET SHOULD HAVE HAD PLENTY OF TIME FOR LOAFING! BUT WHAT CHANCE HAS A PLANETARY BEACHCOMBER TO LOAF WHEN A BEAUTIFUL GIRL LURES HIM INTO CHALLENGING...

WINGED DEATH ON VENUS



MINUTES AFTER THE TINY ROCKET FIELD IS CLEARED OF ITS HUGE INVADER...

BEASTS, FLOODS, QUAKE... AND NOW A RICH TOURIST WHO WANTS TO GO HUNTING! WHEN AM I GOING TO CATCH UP ON MY MICROFILM READING? WELL, I NEED THE DOUGH...

CHET'S SHIP EASES INTO THE HUGE SPACE YACHT'S AIRLOCK.

HEARD A LOT ABOUT YOU, FIELDS. YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE THE BEST BIG-GAME GUIDE ON VENUS!

THANKS BUT...WHAT'S THIS? A GIRL COMING ALONG?

ANY OBJECTIONS, MR. FIELDS?

...I'M A DEAD SHOT WITH ANY KIND OF WEAPON... AND I'M IN PERFECT PHYSICAL CONDITION!

I CAN SEE THAT, BUT I WON'T TAKE A GIRL THROUGH THE VENUSIAN JUNGLES!

NOW, NOW... MAYBE A 100% BONUS WILL CHANGE YOUR MIND!

A BEAUTIFUL GIRL AND DOUBLE PAY...CHET'S PRINCIPLES COULD NEVER BATTLE A COMBINATION LIKE THAT! BESIDES, MAGDA DUPREY, OBVIOUSLY IN GOOD SHAPE, MIGHT EVEN BE A BETTER JUNGLE RISK THAN HER PAUNCHY UNCLE!

AND SO, PRESENTLY...

DON'T WORRY ABOUT CREDIT, CHET...YOU CAN HAVE ANYTHING IN THE STORE!...AS LONG AS IT'S FOR WAGNER DUPREY. WHY, HE'S ONE OF THE RICHEST MEN IN THE SOLAR SYSTEM!

YEAH? WELL, HE SHOULD HAVE SENT HIS NIECE TO FINISH SCHOOL THEN! THEY'D HAVE TAUGHT HER MANNERS!

...I HEARD THAT, MR. FIELDS! YOU COULD STAND SOME ETIQUETTE YOURSELF! NOW PLEASE GET OUT OF MY WAY WHILE I BUY SOME MARTIAN RED LIPSTICK!

THIS IS GOING TO BE A GREAT TRIP WITH YOU ALONG!

AND I CAME TO VENUS FOR PEACE AND QUIET!

THUS A SHARP CLASH OF TEMPER STARTS THE EXPEDITION OFF IN A THREATENING MOOD!

LET ME OUT OF HERE! I DON'T HAVE TO BE CARRIED! I CAN WALK LIKE ANY OTHER HUMAN BEING!

I'M NOT TAKING ANY CHANCES ON YOU GETTING MAD AT A GIANT SNAKE! YOU'LL STAY IN THAT CHAIR IF WE HAVE TO TIE YOU IN!



UNCLE, ARE YOU GOING TO LET THAT... THAT **SPACE TRAMP** MAKE ME RIDE LIKE A -AN INVALID?

THE GUIDE IS BOSS ON AN EXPEDITION, MAGDA! WHAT HE SAYS GOES! ...HEH...HEH... WON'T DO YOU ANY HARM TO TAKE ORDERS FOR A CHANGE!

WITH HIDEOUS ANIMAL SCREAMS WARNING OF THEIR APPROACH, THE EXPEDITION PUSHES INTO THE MIASMIC JUNGLE... A JUNGLE SUCH AS EARTH KNEW MILLIONS OF YEARS AGO! FOR VENUS IS A YOUNG WORLD IN THE VIOLENT STRUGGLE OF EVOLUTION... AND DEATH LURKS EVERYWHERE!

GOOD GALAXY! THOSE FLAME-THROWERS MIGHT START A FOREST FIRE!

NOT IN THIS STEAMING WET JUNGLE, MISS DUPREY! WE'D NEVER GET THROUGH WITHOUT BURNING A PATH... AND IT'LL BE OVERGROWN A WEEK FROM NOW!

THREE DAYS OUT... IN THE TREACHEROUS GREAT SWAMP! EVEN WITH REEF-DEFYING, QUICK-SAND-PROOF **MUD WALKERS**, CACHED THERE FOR SAFARIS, THE CROSSING IS FILLED WITH MENACE!

WATCH OUT FOR UNDERWATER MEAT-EATERS!

STOP BUILDING UP THE DANGER TO MAKE IT LOOK AS IF YOU'RE EARNING YOUR FEE!

ABRUPTLY...

EEE! DO SOMETHING, SOMEBODY!

SO YOU'RE A DEAD SHOT, HUH? I TOLD YOU THIS ISN'T LIKE TARGET PRACTICE!

IT'S MONSTROUS HEAD DISINTEGRATED, THE BEAST'S DEATH THRASHINGS CREATE ANOTHER HAZARD!

WHEW! THE TAIL JUST MISSED US!

AND SOUP'S ON FOR A LOT OF HUNGRY GIANTS! IF WE'RE FAST... AND LUCKY... MAYBE WE CAN STAY OFF THE **MENU!**

SAFELY ASHORE, THE INGENUOUS VEHICLES ARE PARKED FOR THE RETURN TRIP...



AND SO THE HUNTING PARTY COMES TO SABRE-TOOTH TERRITORY... AND THERE, AS CAMP IS PREPARED FOR THE NIGHT...



FOR ALL HIS PAUNCHY BULK, THE FLABBY-LOOKING EARTH FINANCIER CLEARS THE ROOM IN A SINGLE FRANTIC LEAP!



MAYBE I CAN CATCH...

STOP! IT SHOOTS POISON DARTS!

HE'S DEAD!
(sob)
IT COULD HAVE BEEN ME!

HOW DID YOU KNOW THAT WAS A DARTERFLY, MR. DUPREY?

WHY...UH...I READ ABOUT IT!



READ ABOUT IT? THE DARTERFLY WAS JUST DISCOVERED A SHORT TIME AGO AND NEVER WRITTEN UP AT ALL!??



BUT AS THE SAFARI TREKS DEEPER INTO SABRE-TOOTH LAND, THE MYSTERY BECOMES NO CLEARER!



GREAT SCOTT, FIELDS! WHAT KIND OF TRACKS ARE THOSE?

THEY LOOK LIKE THE FOOTPRINTS OF A TREMENDOUS DOG!

THAT'S THE VENUSIAN WOLF...AS BIG AS AN ELEPHANT AND FIERCE AS A REPTILE MEAT-EATER!

WHY SHOULD WAGNER DUPREY KNOW ABOUT THE UNPUBLICIZED DARTERFLY... AND NOT THE NOTORIOUS VENUSIAN WOLF? MORE HAD BEEN FILMED AND WRITTEN OF THE WOLF THAN ANY OTHER VENUSIAN BEAST!

AND AFTER HOURS OF PATIENT, WARY TRACKING...

ARE...ARE YOU SURE IT CAN'T BREAK THROUGH THE FIRE WALL?

ABSOLUTELY! THAT'S WHY I HAD THE ANT MEN RING IT IN! NOW AIM A NEEDLE-RAY AT THE CHEST, MR. DUPREY...YOU WON'T SPOIL THE PELT!



I GOT IT!

GOOD SHOT!



BUT EVEN WITH THE FELT OF A VENUSIAN WOLF...ONE OF THE GREATEST CATCHES OF THE SOLAR SYSTEM... DUPREY IS STILL UNDER HIS URGING, THE SAFARI PLODS CLEAR ACROSS THE DESERT WASTELAND TO...

BOSS, THIS NEAR WINGED PEOPLE! WE NOT GO NEARER!

WHAT IS HE TALKING ABOUT?

OH, SOME NATIVE SUPERSTITION, MAGDA. WE WON'T PAY ANY ATTENTION TO THESE IGNORANT MEN!

I'M AFRAID WE'LL HAVE TO, MR. DUPREY. WE NEED PORTERS TO TRAVEL ON VENUS... AND THEY WON'T INVADE WINGED TERRITORY!

THEN WE'LL GO ON WITHOUT THEM! I'M NOT AFRAID OF THESE WINGED PEOPLE OR WHATEVER THEY ARE!

BUT SOME EARTHMAN DOUBLED-CROSSED THE WINGED PEOPLE A GENERATION AGO... AND THEY'RE STILL SORE! WE'D NEVER GET OUT ALIVE!

YOU COULD GET US OUT, MR. FIELDS! YOU'RE SO RESOURCEFUL!

I WON'T GO! THAT'S FINAL! I'M NOT GOING TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE LIVES OF A PAIR OF FOOL TOURISTS...

WOULDN'T YOU DO IT FOR ME, CHET DARLING? I WANT SO MUCH TO SEE THESE MYSTERIOUS PEOPLE WITH WINGS... YOU WON'T DISAPPOINT ME, WILL YOU?

A PAIR OF SOFT LIPS, AN ENTICING SMILE... WHAT MAN COULD RESIST? AND SO, AGAINST HIS WILL, CHET FIELDS GLUMLY LEAVES THE NATIVE PORTERS ENCAMPED TO AWAIT THEIR RETURN...

PRESENTLY...

JUPITER'S MOONS, WINGED CITY IS BEAUTIFUL! I WISH WE COULD GET CLOSER!

NOT ME! THEY HAVE VULTURE EYES, THESE PEOPLE... THEY CAN SEE MILES! NOW LET'S GET BACK BEFORE...

A RUSH OF IMMENSE WINGS THAT BLOT OUT THE SKY... AND...

TOO LATE! THEY'VE SPOTTED US!

DON'T SHOOT! THEY'LL EXECUTE US IF WE KILL ONE OF THEM!

SEIZED IN POWERFUL HANDS, THE TERRIFIED TRIO IS BORNE AIRWARD!



CHET WAS RIGHT,
UNCLE... WE SHOULDN'T
HAVE COME HERE!

FINE TIME
TO THINK
OF THAT!

BUT INSTANT'S LATER...THE AWESOME
COURT OF THE FEARED **WINGED
KING!**

YOUR MAJESTY,
THESE EARTHLINGS
INVADED OUR
COUNTRY
IN
DEFIANCE
OF YOUR
PUBLISHED
WARNINGS!

WHY DID
YOU
DISOBEY
MY
COMMAND?



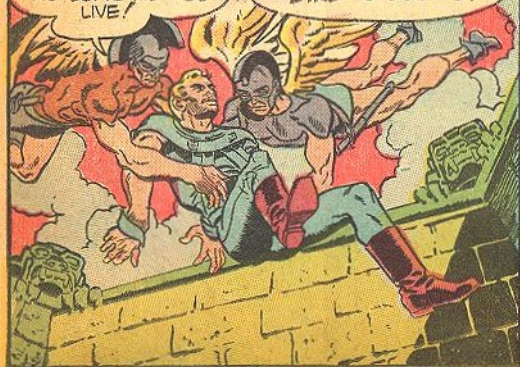
WE CAME HERE
OUT OF
CURIOSITY TO SEE
BEAUTIFUL
WINGED CITY AND
YOUR ALMOST
LEGENDARY
SUBJECTS. WE
INTENDED NO HARM
WE ONLY WANTED
TO LOOK, ADMIRE,
AND LEAVE!

THIRTY YEARS AGO,
AN EARTHMAN WAS ALLOWED
TO GO... AND HE STOLE
FROM US THE SACRED
JEWEL EYE OF
ANACINTH, GOD
OF THE
WINGED PEOPLE! YOU
WILL PAY FOR HIS
TREACHERY BY
REMAINING HERE...AS
PRISONERS!



THIS WILL BE
YOUR PRISON FOR
AS LONG AS YOU
LIVE!

I WOULDN'T BE
SURPRISED...IT'D TAKE
A **BIRD** TO ESCAPE!



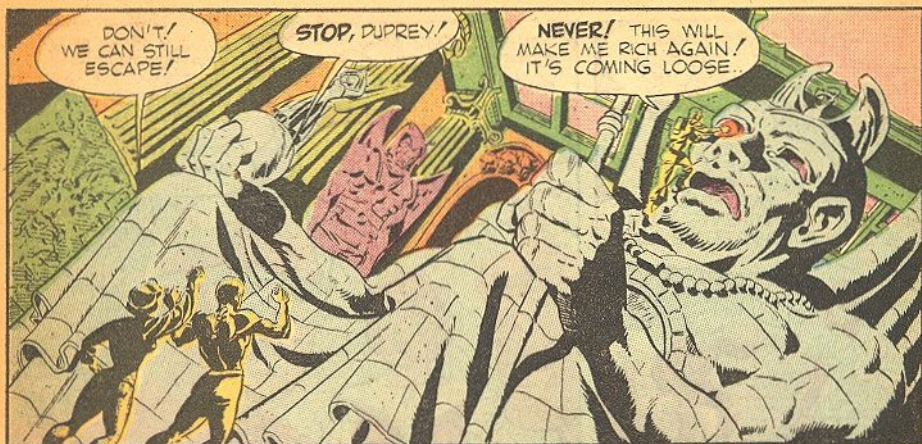
WE'LL NEVER
GET OUT! WE'RE
GOING TO
DIE
HERE!

PULL
YOUR-
SELF TO-
GETHER, MAGDA.
WE'RE NOT
DEAD YET!

AND WE'RE NOT.
GOING TO BE!
I GOT OUT OF
THIS SAME
PRISON ONCE..
AND I CAN
DO IT
AGAIN!







DON'T!
WE CAN STILL
ESCAPE!

STOP, DUPREY!

NEVER! THIS WILL
MAKE ME RICH AGAIN!
IT'S COMING LOOSE..

SUDDENLY, A RAY OF GHASTLY HUE LEAPS
FROM A GIANT GEM CONCEALED IN THE
OPPOSITE WALL! AND...



A TRAP!
DIGGING OUT THE JEWEL
SET OFF A DEATH RAY...

AAAAAGH!



HE'S... (sob)...
HE'S DEAD!

WE CAN'T DO ANY-
THING FOR HIM,
MAGDA HONEY!

LOOK... THESE WINGS ARE
HELD ON BY VESTS... AND
THEY'RE REAL FEATHERS!
MAYBE WE CAN GET OUT
OF HERE BEFORE THE
WINGED PEOPLE FIND OUT
WHERE THE SCREAM CAME
FROM!

WEIGHTED DOWN BY THE MASSIVE WINGS,
FEARFUL THAT THEY MIGHT SLIP OFF... A
PAIR OF VERY FRIGHTENED EARTH PEOPLE
SLIP THROUGH A CORDON OF TERROR!



AND... FRIGHT-FILLED DAYS LATER...

BOSS, YOU
BACK...
ALIVE!

AND I THOUGHT YOU
WERE JUST A VIDEO-
TYPE GUIDE! BUT
YOU SAVED ME, CHET,
AND... I LOVE YOU!

NOW THAT YOU'RE
BROKE, BABY, I
GUESS I
LOVE YOU,
TOO!



THE
END

AS TOM GRAVES PLUNGED INTO THE UNKNOWN, HE FOLLOWED A PATH THAT ONLY ONE OTHER HUMAN BEING HAD EVER TROD! HE FACED UNGUESSED DANGERS IN A WEIRD WORLD THAT EXISTS ALL ABOUT US, BUT OF WHICH WE ARE HAPPILY UNAWARE. HURTLING FAR BEYOND THE BORDERS OF HUMAN EXPERIENCE, HE BECAME A ...

TRESPASSER IN TIME

WHEN PROFESSOR JASON ARNOLD PHONED ME TO COME TO THE LAB THAT MORNING, I GUESSED BY THE URGENCY OF HIS VOICE THAT SOMETHING IMPORTANT HAD HAPPENED! I WAS THE ONLY PERSON TO WHOM HE HAD CONFIDED HIS EXPERIMENTS TO PROLONG LIFE.

AS YOU'RE MY STAR PUPIL, GRAVES, I'M CONFIDING THE STRANGE... THE UNBELIEVABLE! TWICE I'VE INJECTED THIS NEW COMPOUND INTO ANIMALS... AND THEY DISAPPEARED BOTH TIMES !!

DISAPPEARED?

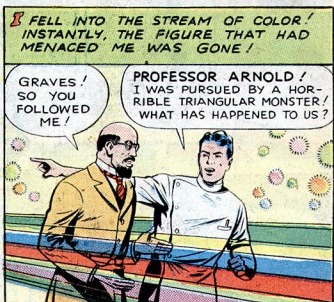
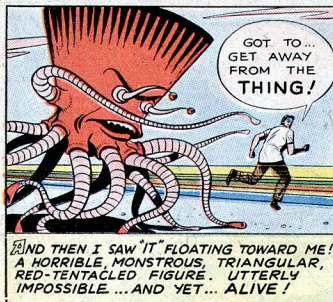
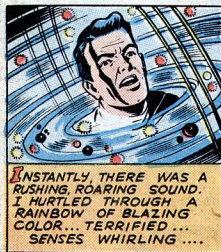
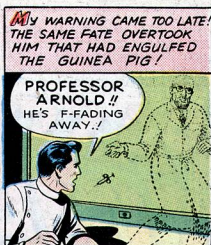
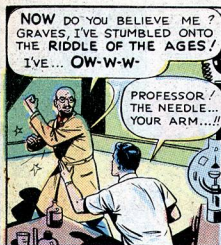
WHERE DID THEY GO ?

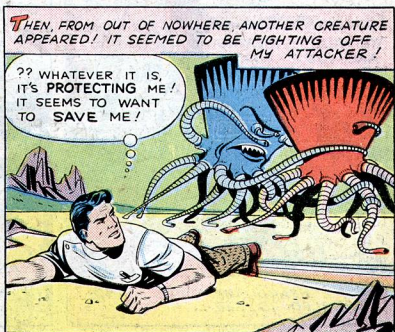
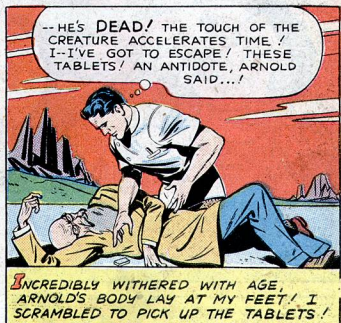
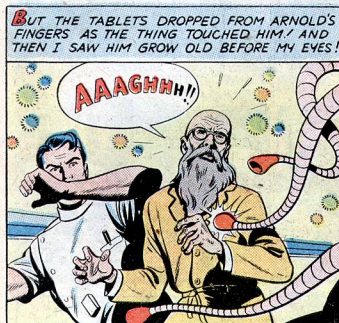
I'VE A THEORY... BUT FIRST, I WANT TO BE SURE! I'LL TRY IT ON THIS FELLOW RIGHT NOW !

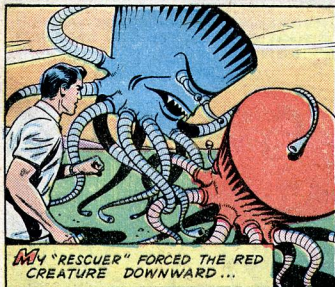
GREAT SCOTT !!

YOU SEE ?

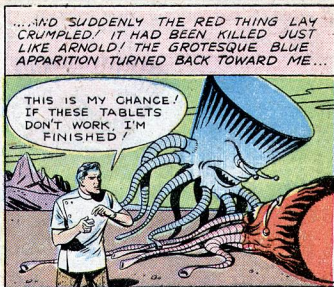
PROFESSOR ARNOLD PLUNGED THE NEEDLE INTO THE GUINEA PIG ... AND AS HE DID, SOMETHING HAPPENED THAT MADE ME DOUBT MY EYES. THE CREATURE VANISHED !







MY "RESCUER" FORCED THE RED CREATURE DOWNWARD...



...AND SUDDENLY THE RED THING LAY CRUMPLED! IT HAD BEEN KILLED JUST LIKE ARNOLD! THE GROTESQUE BLUE APPARITION TURNED BACK TOWARD ME...

THIS IS MY CHANCE! IF THESE TABLETS DON'T WORK, I'M FINISHED!



I GULPED THE TABLETS! BUT JUST AS I DID, THE THING REACHED OUT A TENTACLE, CARESSING MY HEAD! THE WHOLE SIDE OF MY FACE WENT NUMB...



I'M... BACK IN THE LAB! THE ANTIDOTE WORKED! POOR PROFESSOR ARNOLD! I...I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE THIS HORROR IT MUST HAVE BEEN A DREAM!



IT WAS NO DREAM, TOM GRAVES!

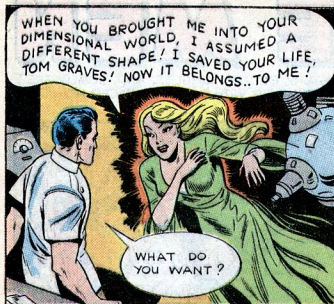
WH-WHAT?!. WH-WHO ARE YOU? WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

THEN I HEARD THE VOICE... AND WHIRLED TO SEE... HER!

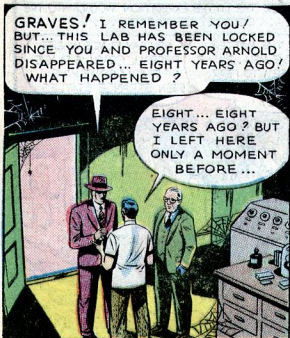


I TOUCHED YOU AS YOU CROSSED THE BORDER FROM MY LAND TO YOURS, TOM GRAVES! THUS, YOU TOOK ME WITH YOU!

BUT **YOU** CAN'T BE THAT -- THAT CREATURE!

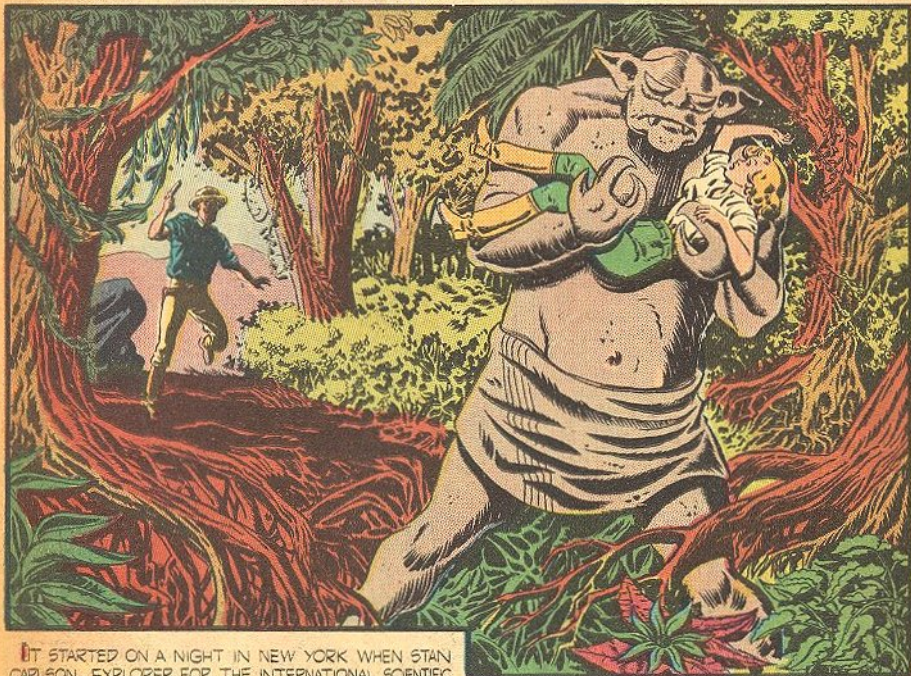


SHE WANTED TO BRING ME BACK TO THAT HORRIBLE, UNEARTHLY WORLD! AS HER LIPS NEARED MINE, MY SENSES SWAM...ALMOST HYPNOTICALLY, I FELT MY RESISTANCE FADING... FADING...



THE STONE MEN

ALL AROUND HIM WAS THE THROBBING MYSTERY OF THE JUNGLE! AND SOMEWHERE IN THAT JUNGLE A GIGANTIC STONE FIGURE, SOMEHOW IMBUED WITH EVIL LIFE, PACED HEAVILY TOWARD HIM WITH A MESSAGE OF **DEATH!!**



IT STARTED ON A NIGHT IN NEW YORK WHEN STAN CARLSON, EXPLORER FOR THE INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTE, HESITANTLY DELIVERED SOME NEWS TO HIS FIANCEE, JUDY THOMAS.....

REMEMBER THAT METEORITE REPORTED TO HAVE CRASHED IN MEXICO. JUDY? THE INSTITUTE IS SENDING ME TO LOOK FOR IT!

MEANING OUR MARRIAGE WILL BE DELAYED AGAIN WHILE YOU MEANDER THROUGH THE JUNGLE! BUT THIS TIME I'M COMING WITH YOU!



JUDY WOULDN'T TAKE "NO" FOR AN ANSWER! AND SO A MONTH LATER THE LITTLE EXPEDITION WOUND INTO THE DENSE BACK COUNTRY OF YUCATAN.....

WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH THE MEN, JUAN? THEY SEEM TO FEAR SOMETHING IN THIS JUNGLE!

MEN SAY PLACE WHERE FIREBALL CRASH IS PLACE OF DEATH! SOME HAVE SEEN STRANGE STATUES THERE!



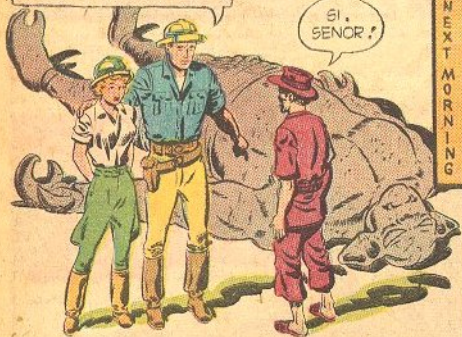
HEAR THAT, JUDY? THEY'VE SEEN STATUES AROUND HERE...POSSIBLY FROM THE AZTEC DYNASTY, I SUPPOSE. THE ARCHEOLOGICAL SECTION WILL BE INTERESTED!

WELL, I'M GLAD WE'RE ALMOST TO THE END OF THE TRAIL! THIS JUNGLE GIVES ME THE CREEPS!



NONSENSE, JUAN! THERE'S NOTHING TO BE AFRAID OF! TELL THE MEN TO MAKE CAMP! I'LL WANT TO EXAMINE THIS THING IN THE MORNING!

SI, SENOR!



THE STATUE, STAN! IT'S MOVED! THAT'S NOT THE WAY IT WAS LYING LAST NIGHT!

JUDY, GET HOLD OF YOURSELF! THE THING WEIGHS TEN TONS IF IT WEIGHS AN OUNCE! HOW COULD IT HAVE BEEN MOVED?



AND THEN THEY CAME UPON A HUGE STONE FIGURE LYING PRONE IN THE STEAMING TROPIC HEAT....

JUDY, A STATUE IN PERFECT CONDITION! THIS IS THE DISCOVERY OF THE CENTURY!

THE MEN NOT LIKE IT HERE, SENOR CARLSON! THEY SAY THEY SMELL DEATH!



NEXT MORNING

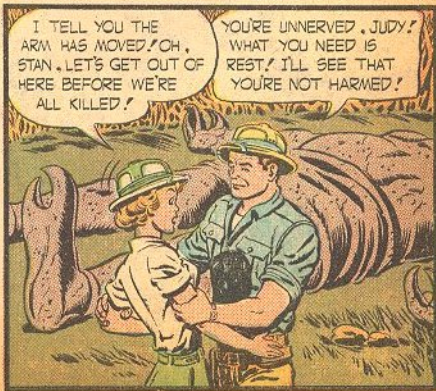
STAN! THEY'RE DEAD!

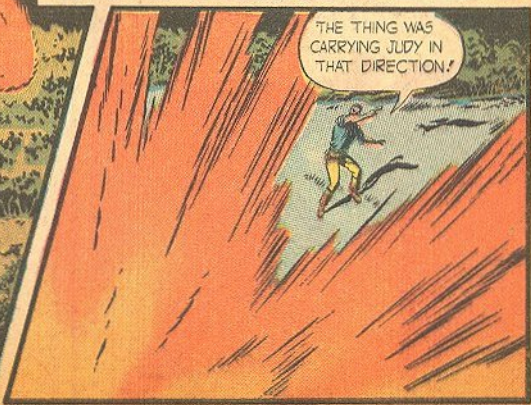
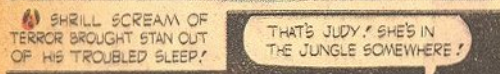
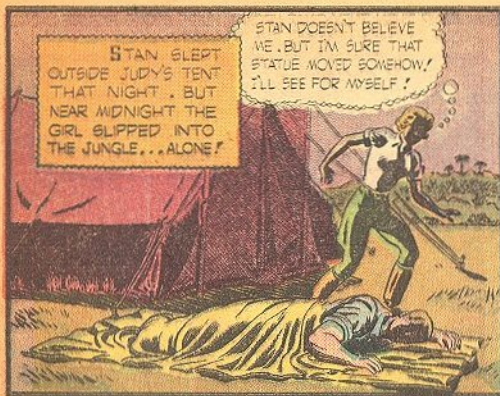
THEIR HEADS HAVE BEEN BASHED IN! THERE'S A MURDERER LOOSE IN THE EXPEDITION!



I TELL YOU THE ARM HAS MOVED! OH, STAN, LET'S GET OUT OF HERE BEFORE WE'RE ALL KILLED!

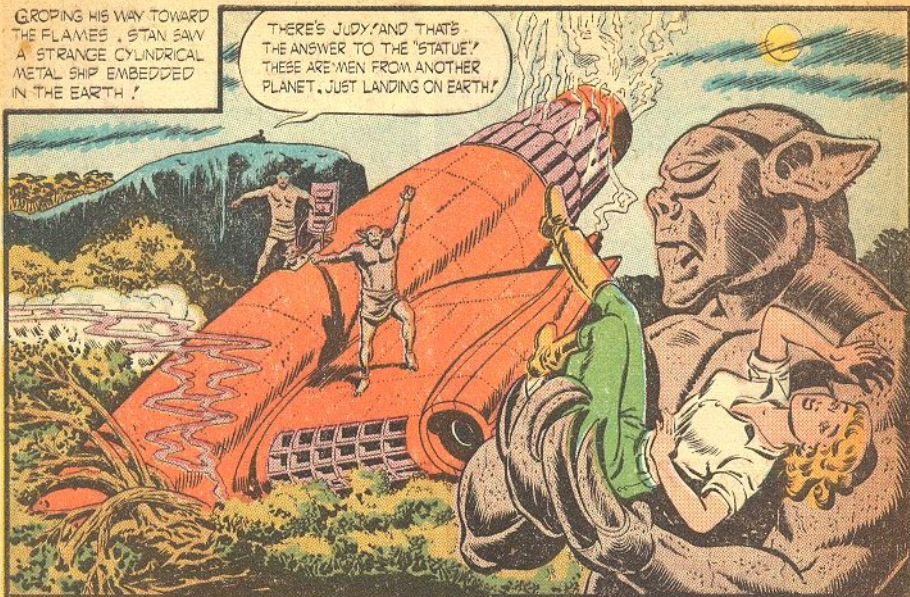
YOU'RE UNNERVED, JUDY! WHAT YOU NEED IS REST! I'LL SEE THAT YOU'RE NOT HARMED!





GROPPING HIS WAY TOWARD THE FLAMES, STAN SAW A STRANGE CYLINDRICAL METAL SHIP EMBEDDED IN THE EARTH!

THERE'S JUDY! AND THAT'S THE ANSWER TO THE "STATUE"! THESE ARE MEN FROM ANOTHER PLANET, JUST LANDING ON EARTH!



MORE OF THE INVADERS EMERGED FROM THE SPACE SHIP, AND JUDY'S CAPTOR WENT TO MEET THEM!

STRANGE! THESE NEWCOMERS MOVE MUCH MORE EASILY THAN THE ONE WHO'S BEEN HERE AWHILE! CAN IT BE THAT SOMETHING IN EARTH'S ATMOSPHERE TURNS THEM TO STONE?



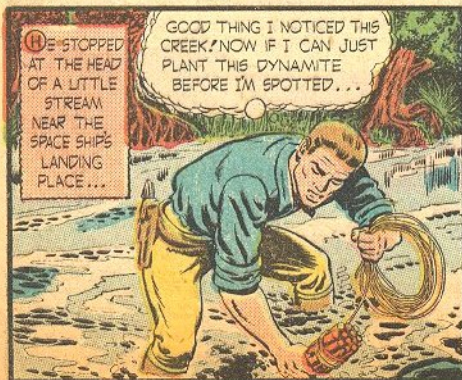
WHEN THE POSSIBLE ANSWER TO THIS MENACE FROM ANOTHER WORLD CAME TO STAN, SWIFTLY HE RETURNED TO CAMP, GATHERED SOME EXPLOSIVE CHARGES, AND HEADED BACK INTO THE JUNGLE!

THIS MUST BE IT! IF THOSE THINGS REMAIN IN THIS ATMOSPHERE FOR ANY LENGTH OF TIME, THEY SEEM TO BECOME PETRIFIED! IF I CAN SPEED THE PROCESS UP, I'LL SAVE JUDY!



HE STOPPED AT THE HEAD OF A LITTLE STREAM NEAR THE SPACE SHIP'S LANDING PLACE...

GOOD THING I NOTICED THIS CREEK! NOW IF I CAN JUST PLANT THIS DYNAMITE BEFORE I'M SPOTTED...



THE DEVIL SEES ME! IF THIS DOESN'T WORK I'M FINISHED, AND SO IS JUDY!



TOUCHING A MATCH TO HIS FUSE, STAN RACES FOR COVER BEHIND A ROCK! THEN . . .



REACHING THE SPACE SHIP, STAN BEHELD AN AWESOME SIGHT! WHERE THERE HAD BEEN LIFE, NOW DEATH REIGNED! THE MONSTERS LAY IMMOBILE, TURNED TO STONE!

STAN!
STAN!
THANK HEAVENS
YOU'VE COME!

IT'S ALL RIGHT, JUDY!
THESE CREATURES CAN'T
BOOTHER US ANYMORE!



IT WORKED! WATER TURNED THE THING TO STONE! NOW, IF I CALCULATED RIGHT, THE STREAM'S NEW COURSE SHOULD TAKE IT RIGHT INTO THE LAPS OF THOSE OTHER CREATURES!

B-BUT WHAT HAPPENED?
THERE WAS AN EXPLOSION,
WATER CAME RUSHING
INTO THE CLEARING,
AND THESE HORRIBLE
THINGS SEEMED TO
STIFFEN AND DIE!

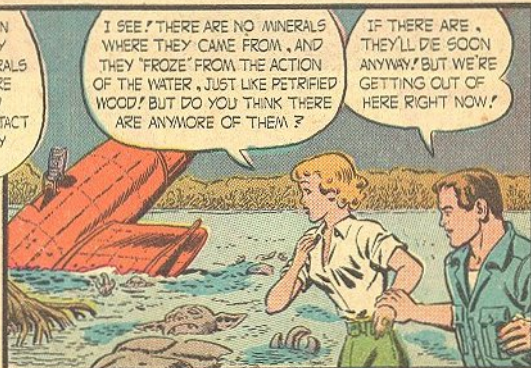
THEY WERE MEN...IF
WE CAN CALL THEM 'MEN'
...FROM ANOTHER PLANET.
JUDY! THE METEOR WE
WERE SEEKING WAS THEIR
FIRST SPACE SHIP! THEIR
SECOND LANDED TONIGHT!



THE CREATURE THAT HAD BEEN
HERE A WHILE WAS OBVIOUSLY
TURNING TO STONE! THE MINERALS
IN THIS MOIST TROPIC AIR WERE
PETRIFYING HIM! SO I TURNED
THE STREAM, HOPING THAT CONTACT
WITH WATER WOULD PETRIFY
THEM MUCH FASTER...AND
IT WORKED!

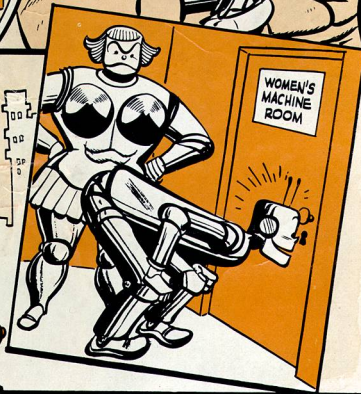
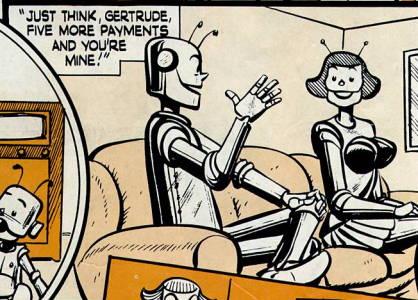
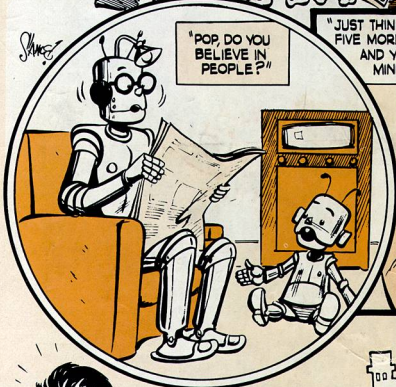
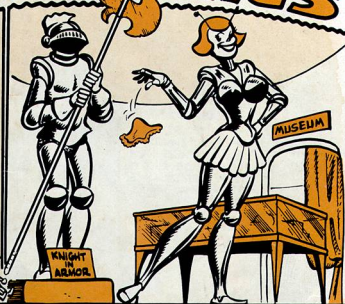
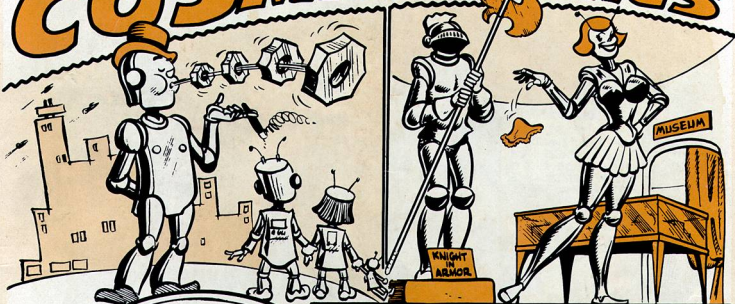
I SEE! THERE ARE NO MINERALS
WHERE THEY CAME FROM, AND
THEY 'FROZE' FROM THE ACTION
OF THE WATER, JUST LIKE PETRIFIED
WOOD! BUT DO YOU THINK THERE
ARE ANYMORE OF THEM?

IF THERE ARE,
THEY'LL BE SOON
ANYWAY! BUT WE'RE
GETTING OUT OF
HERE RIGHT NOW!



AND SO STAN AND JUDY RETURNED TO CIVILIZATION WITH THEIR STRANGE TALE! LEARNED MEN JOURNEYED TO SEE THE PROOF AND WONDER, "THESE INVADERS FAILED, BUT WILL OTHERS SUCCEED?"

COSMIC COMICS



AMAZING PROPHECIES

WHICH NATION
WILL OWN THE MOON?

THE UNITED STATES?
RUSSIA? ENGLAND?--
IT ALL DEPENDS UPON
WHICH NATION WINS THE
INTERPLANETARY RACE!

EVERY MAN
A GENIUS!

SUPER-KNOWLEDGE
MAY BE IMPARTED TO
YOUNGSTERS BY ME-
CHANICAL MEANS SO
THAT THEY WILL NOT
HAVE TO SPEND A
LARGE PORTION OF
THEIR LIVES IN
SEARCH OF WISDOM.

THE SECOND
DELUGE!

EXPLOSION OF SUPER-
ATOMIC BOMBS MAY UP-
SET THE POLAR ICE-CAP
RESULTING IN THE SEAS
OVERFLOWING!

THE MOLE
MEN!

THE CIVILIZATION OF
TOMORROW, DUE TO
ATOMIC WARFARE, MAY
EXIST UNDERGROUND!

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